

William Schultze

10/02/02 10:30 AM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group
cc:
Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 10/2/2002

Here we go again. I will try to get these out by Wednesday of each week, through the fall migration.

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/2/2002

Canada Geese - 3500

Snow Geese - 0

Ducks - 50,000

Swans - 50

The majority of ducks are mallards, northern shovelers, and green-winged teal.

The swans just moved into the refuge during the last couple of days.

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

10/16/02 11:10 AM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

cc:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 10/16/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/16/2002

Canada Geese - 3000

Snow Geese - 200

Ducks - 60,000

Swans - 1000

10/18 - ~2000 snow geese
10/20 - ~6000 " "
10/21 - ~18,000 " "

The first small flocks of snow geese were seen over the weekend.

There were small increases in the number of mallards and divers since last week.

The swans continue to concentrate in northern Sand Lake.

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/9/2002

Canada Geese - 3000

Snow Geese - 0

Ducks - 50,000

Swans - 260

The majority of ducks are mallards and northern shovelers. Some scaup and other divers have moved in during the past week.

Most of the swans are located in northern Sand Lake.

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

10/22/02 11:20 AM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

cc:

cc:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 10/22/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/22/2002

Canada Geese - 2300

Snow Geese - 24,000

Ducks - 80,000

Swans - 1100

*10/25 - Ducks - almost 150,000
10/28 - Swans - 1000
Ducks - 150,000
Snow Geese - 45,000
C. Geese - 3,000*

We received approximately 4 inches of snow during the night of the 21st - 22nd.

The main flock of snow geese are along the west edge of Sand Lake, south of highway 10.

Increases in duck numbers are mostly mallards. There are still good sized flocks of shovelers and green-winged teal on the refuge.

The swans are still concentrated in northern Sand Lake.

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/16/2002

Canada Geese - 3000

Snow Geese - 200

Ducks - 60,000

Swans - 1000

The first small flocks of snow geese were seen over the weekend.

There were small increases in the number of mallards and divers since last week.

The swans continue to concentrate in northern Sand Lake.

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

10/30/02 11:29 AM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

cc:

cc:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 10/30/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/30/2002

Canada Geese - 2500

Snow Geese - 50,000

Ducks - 100,000

Swans - 2500

11/2/02

Canada - 150,000

Ducks - 50,000

Conditions have changed alot since last week. Tuesday night, lows were in the teens, and much of the lakes are frozen over this morning. There are still open-water spots holding waterfowl. Tonight is supposed to be cold again, so we'll see..... There is currently less than one inch of snow on the ground. There is still alot of unharvested corn in the refuge area.

Earlier in the week, mallard numbers were near 180,000.

Snow goose numbers have built up gradually over the last week.

Swan numbers built up over the weekend. This morning, most of them we sitting on the ice.

Bird numbers can change quickly this time of year. Stay tuned....

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/22/2002

Canada Geese - 2300

Snow Geese - 24,000

Ducks - 80,000

Swans - 1100

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

11/06/02 02:31 PM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

cc:

cc:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 11/6/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 11/6/2002

Canada Geese - 2500

Snow Geese - 160,000

Ducks - 140,000

Swans - 1900

Weather conditions have improved since last week. The lakes are opening back up, and as of today, have quite a bit of open water. Temperatures are predicted to be mild the rest of this week.

Snow goose numbers built up over the weekend.

Mallard numbers dropped as the lakes began to freeze over, but have built back up the last few days.

There are reports of many snow geese and ducks using Putney Slough.

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 10/30/2002

Canada Geese - 2500

Snow Geese - 50,000

Ducks - 100,000

Swans - 2500

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

11/12/02 03:46 PM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

CC:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 11/12/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 11/12/2002

Canada Geese - 2000

Snow Geese - 175,000

Ducks - 70,000

Swans - 1100

11/16 - 200,000 Snow Geese

The lakes were almost completely frozen over again on Monday, but are opening back up today(Tuesday).

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 11/6/2002

Canada Geese - 2500

Snow Geese - 160,000

Ducks - 140,000

Swans - 1900

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

William Schultze

11/21/02 11:55 AM

To: Waterfowl Migration Group

cc:

Subject: Sand Lake NWR Weekly Waterfowl Estimate - 11/21/2002

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 11/21/2002

Canada Geese - 1700

Snow Geese - 200,000

Ducks - 35,000

Swans - 1200

The ice was off the lakes by mid-week last week, and the lakes have remained open through today. The snow geese are concentrated in northern Sand Lake.

Waterfowl Estimates for Sand Lake NWR - 11/12/2002

Canada Geese - 2000

Snow Geese - 175,000

Ducks - 70,000

Swans - 1100

Bill Schultze
Wildlife Biologist
Sand Lake NWR
39650 Sand Lake Dr.
Columbia, SD 57433
(605)885-6320

*Lakes froze the last time Nov. 25
- ~100,000 snows on refuge*

Nov. 28 - ~90,000 snows

Nov. 30 - ~1000 snows

Dec. 2 - only handful left